

to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3461, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3461) to approve a governing international fishery treaty agreement between the United States and Poland.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be deemed read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3461) was deemed read a third time, and passed.

CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF A BILL

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 352 which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (H. Con. Res. 352) directing the clerk of the House of Representatives to make technical corrections in the enrollment of a bill.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (H. Con. Res. 352) was agreed to.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. LOTT. I now ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged and the Senate proceed en bloc to consider the following resolutions: S. Res. 285, S. Res. 293, S. Res. 294, S. Res. 298, S. Con. Res. 122, H. Con. Res. 185, H. Con. Res. 224, H. Con. Res. 254 and H. Con. 277. I ask unanimous consent that the Lugar amendment numbered 3834 to S. Res. 285 and the Abraham amendment No. 3835 to S. Res. 298 be agreed to, the resolutions and preambles be agreed to en bloc. I further ask that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4083, the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the measures be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ENSURING FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS IN GABON

The Senate proceeded to consider the resolution (S. Res. 285) expressing the

sense of the Senate that all necessary steps should be taken to ensure elections to be held in Gabon in December 1998 are free and fair.

The amendment (No. 3834) was agreed to, as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:
That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and commends those Gabonese who have demonstrated their love for free and fair elections;

(2) commends the Government of Gabon for inviting the International Foundation for Election Systems to perform a pre-election assessment study;

(3) calls on the Government of Gabon to—

(A) take further measures to ensure the organization and administration of a transparent and credible election and to ensure that the national election commission is able to independently carry out its duties; and

(B) further welcome the International Foundation for Election Systems, the National Democratic Institute, the International Republican Institute, and other appropriate national and international non-governmental organizations to aid the organization of, and to monitor, the December 1998 Presidential election in Gabon, in an effort to assist the government in ensuring that the elections are free and fair;

(4) urges the United States Government to continue to work with the international community, and through appropriate non-governmental organizations, to help create an environment which guarantees free and fair elections; and

(5) urges the United States Government and the international community to continue to encourage and support the institutionalization of democratic processes and the establishment of conditions for good governance in Gabon.

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas Gabon is a heavily forested and oil-rich country on the west coast of Central Africa;

Whereas Gabon gained independence from France in 1960;

Whereas Gabon is scheduled to hold national elections in December 1998 for the purpose of electing a President;

Whereas the Government of Gabon was subject to single-party rule until 1990 and only one person has held the office of the President since 1967;

Whereas the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) and the African American Institute (AAI) served as observers during the organization of the 1993 Presidential and legislative elections in Gabon and found widespread electoral irregularities;

Whereas the Government of Gabon is a signatory to the Paris Accords of 1994, which was approved by national referendum in July 1995, and was instituted to provide for a state of law guaranteeing basic individual freedoms and the organization of free and fair elections under a new independent national election commission;

Whereas the people of Gabon have demonstrated their support for the democratic process through the formation of numerous political parties since 1990 and their strong participation in prior elections; and

Whereas it is in the interest of the United States to promote political and economic freedom in Africa and throughout the world: Now, therefore, be it

The title was amended so as to read as follows: "Expressing the sense of the Senate that all necessary steps should be taken to ensure the elections to be held in Gabon are free and fair."

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 285), as amended, was agreed to.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE FOR THE RETURN OF NADIA DABBAGH

The resolution (S. Res. 293) expressing the sense of the Senate that Nadia Dabbagh should be returned home to her mother, Ms. Maureen Dabbagh was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 293), with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 293

Whereas Mr. Mohamad Hisham Dabbagh and Mrs. Maureen Dabbagh had a daughter, Nadia Dabbagh, in 1990;

Whereas Maureen Dabbagh and Mohamad Hisham Dabbagh were divorced in February 1992;

Whereas in 1993, Nadia was abducted by her father;

Whereas Mohamad Dabbagh later fled the country with Nadia;

Whereas the governments of Syria and the United States have granted child custody to Maureen Dabbagh and both have issued arrest warrants for Mohamad Dabbagh;

Whereas Mohamad Dabbagh has escaped to Saudi Arabia;

Whereas the United States Department of State believes Nadia now resides in Syria;

Whereas Maureen Dabbagh, with the assistance of missing children organizations, has been unable to reunite with her daughter;

Whereas the Department of State, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Interpol have been unsuccessful in their attempts to bring Nadia back to the United States;

Whereas Maureen Dabbagh has not seen her daughter in over five years; and

Whereas it will take the continued effort and pressure on the part of Syrian officials to bring this case to a successful conclusion: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the Governments of the United States and Syria immediately locate Nadia and deliver her safely to her mother.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO MALAYSIA

The resolution (S. Res. 294) expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to developments in Malaysia and the arrest of Dato Seri Anwar Ibrahim was considered and agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 294), with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. Res. 294

Whereas on September 2, 1998, Malaysia's Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad dismissed Deputy Prime Minister Dato Seri Anwar Ibrahim;

Whereas, over the past year, Dato Seri Anwar has advocated adopting meaningful economic structural reforms to combat an increasingly deteriorating economy—a view which runs counter to those of Dr. Mahathir;

Whereas, after being dismissed, Dato Seri Anwar began touring the country and publicly criticizing Dr. Mahathir and the policies of the ruling United Malays National Organization Baru (UMNO) party;